DTWYSEND IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE NO 100/08

In re:

Serial No.:

to be assigned

Filing Date:

January 7, 2002

Entitled:

SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR THE STORAGE AND

DISPENSING OF ITEMS

Applicant:

Broadfield, et al.

Atty. Docket No.:

PYX3019C1

Prior Appl. Nos.:

1) 09/087,388

Examiner in Prior Appls.

G. Crawford

2) 09/589,552

Prior Appl. Filing Date:

1) ('388) May 29, 1998

Art Unit in Prior Appl.

3651

2) ('552) June 7, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents BOX – PATENT APPLICATION (FEE) Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10(A)

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, as Express Mail No. EL 867967217 US in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, BOX – PATENT APPLICATION (FEE), Washington, D.C. 20231.

Jennifer Warner

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are filed contemporaneously with a Utility Patent Application Transmittal form for a continuation patent application of prior application serial nos. 09/087,388 (which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,116,461) and 09/589,552 (which will be U.S. Patent No. 6,338,007). Entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to calculating the filing fee and consideration of this application is respectfully requested.